

## Message Text

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SECSTATE FOR EUR/CE

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJECT: SEMINAR TO SUM UP U.S. BICENTENNIAL CELE-  
BRATIONS IN THE FRG

1. SUMMARY: THE ATLANTIC BRIDGE AND INTER NATIONES  
SPONSORED A TWO-DAY SEMINAR IN BONN DEC. 13-14 TO  
EVALUATE BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES AND DRAW  
INSIGHTS AND CONCLUSIONS. UNDER THE TITLE "AMERICANS  
AND GERMANS -- WHAT WE HAVE IN COMMON" AROUND 150  
PARTICIPANTS MET TO EXAMINE WHAT COULD BE LEARNED FROM  
THE MYRIAD ACTIVITIES PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF FUTURE  
PLANS AND PROGRAMS.

2. HELD IN THE ELEGANT AND BEAUTIFULLY EQUIPPED MAIN  
AUDITORIUM OF THE NEW GERMAN SCIENCE CENTER IN BONN,  
GERMAN AND AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS HEARD REPORTS AND  
ADDRESSES AND ENGAGED IN DISCUSSION. THE KEYNOTE  
SPEAKERS WERE AMBASSADOR STOESSEL AND STATE SECRETARY  
HERMES OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE. MAIN ADDRESSES WERE  
GIVEN BY KARL DEUTSCH OF HARVARD, GUENTER MOLTMAN,  
CHAIRMAN OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN STUDIES,  
AND EBERHARD REICHMAN OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY. REPRE-  
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SENTATIVES OF MUSEUMS, LAENDER AND CITIES PROVIDED  
SPECIAL REPORTS AND THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNSELOR AN  
ANALYSIS OF THE CELEBRATIONS IN THE U.S. AND THE  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC. WORK GROUPS EXAMINED FRG BICENTEN-  
NIAL ACTIVITIES IN THE MEDIA, ACADEMIA, AND THOSE  
UNDERTAKEN BY SOCIETIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS.

THEY CAME UP WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS, ALL FEASIBLE DEPENDING ON RESOURCES, FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION. PARTICIPANTS FOR THE SEMINAR CAME FROM FRG GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, GERMAN AND AMERICAN MEDIA, THIS MISSION, ACADEMICS, STATES, CITIES, THE U.S. ARMED FORCES, AND ORGANIZATIONS. IT MARKED THE FIRST TIME SUCH A LARGE AND DIVERSE GROUP OF PEOPLE CONCERNED WITH GERMAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS HAD MET FOR A PARTICIPATORY CONFERENCE.

3. THE END OF THE FIRST DAY WAS ENLIVENED BY A BUFFET RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE AMBASSADOR IN THE RESIDENCE, WHICH PROVED TO BE AN ADDITIONAL FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND IDEAS.

4. DETAILED REPORT FOLLOWS BY POUCH. IN SUM, THE SEMINAR WAS NOT ONLY SUCCESSFUL IN REACHING ITS OBJECTIVE BUT WENT BEYOND EXPECTATIONS IN THAT MANY MORE IDEAS FOR FUTURE ACTIVITY AND PROGRAMS IN THE FRG WERE PRODUCED THAN WAS REALISTICALLY HOPED FOR. IT WAS FRUITFUL IN THAT IT BROUGHT TOGETHER IN THE ACADEMIC SENSE AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO PLANNING FOR IMPROVEMENT OF US-FRG RELATIONS AND PARTICIPANTS OF SUFFICIENT AUTHORITY SO THAT SOME DECISIONS COULD BE MADE IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONTINUING THE MOMENTUM PROVIDED BY FRG CELEBRATION OF THE US BICENTENNIAL. ALL SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS WERE IN ACCORD, THAT AS FELICITOUS AS THE PHENOMENON WAS, ONE MUST NOT REST ON LAURELS BUT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES CREATED. DO NOT REST ON UNCLASSIFIED

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LAURELS WAS THE WATCHWORD FOR BOTH SIDES, IT BEING STRESSED MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE OVER THE NEXT YEARS TO ENSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THE VITALITY OF US-FRG RELATIONS AND TO MEET PROBLEMS WHICH WILL PUT STRAINS ON THE RELATIONSHIP.

5. THE PROCEEDINGS WILL BE PUBLISHED EARLY NEXT YEAR AND WILL SERVE TO ENLARGE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT SEVERAL ASPECTS OF US-FRG RELATIONS. TO THIS MOMENT, REASONABLY EXACT ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF EVENTS IN THE FRG HAS NOT BEEN MADE, IT HOVERS AROUND 5,000. IN ANY CASE, THIS SEMINAR BROUGHT THE 1976 BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN THE FRG TO A WORTHY AND USEFUL CLOSE.  
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